

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Takahiro Tanaka

Serial No.: 10/625,330

Filed : July 23, 2003

For : LOW AIR-PERMEABILITY FLEXIBLE POLYURETHANE FOAM BLOCK, AND MANUFACTURING METHOD THEREOF

1185 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, New York 10036  
April 23, 2004Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AND  
CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)

In order to ensure compliance with the applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §1.97(a)-(d), Applicant hereby submits this Information Disclosure Statement.

Applicant directs the Examiner's attention to the following references which are also listed on Form PTO-1449 attached hereto as **Exhibit A**, and were cited in a March 16, 2004 official Communication enclosing a Supplementary European Search Report in a corresponding European patent application. Copies of the references are attached hereto as **Exhibits 1-3**.

1. U.S. Patent No. 4,769,174, issued September 6, 1988 to Kilgour (Exhibit 1);
2. U.S. Patent No. 6,121,336, issued September 19, 2000 to Okoroafor et al. (Exhibit 2); and
3. English-language abstract of Japanese patent application no. 8092404, published April 9, 1996 (Exhibit 3).

Applicant also submits herewith as **Exhibit B** a copy of the March

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16, 2004 official Communication and Supplementary European Search Report in connection with corresponding European Patent Application No. EP 02 71 0492.

A first Office Action has not been received in connection with the subject application. Accordingly, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), Applicant believes that the present Information Disclosure Statement is being timely filed and no fee or certification is due or required.

However, in the event that a first Office Action has been mailed but has not yet been received by Applicants or connected with the application file in the undersigned attorney's office, Applicant hereby requests, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(1), consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Applicant certifies, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1), that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. The date of mailing of the Communication enclosing the Supplementary European Search Report is March 16, 2004, and therefore this Information Disclosure Statement is being timely filed, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(1).

Further, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d), Applicant states that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this Information

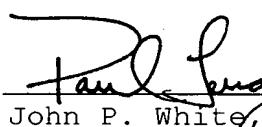
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Disclosure Statement. According to information received by the undersigned attorney from applicant's Japanese patent attorneys who provide instructions concerning prosecution of this application to the undersigned, the March 16, 2004 communication was received by them on April 2, 2004.

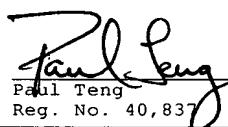
If a telephone conference would be of assistance in advancing the prosecution of the subject application, Applicant's undersigned attorneys invite the Examiner to telephone them at the number provided below.

No fee is believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, if any fee is required, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of any such fee to Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Paul Teng  
Reg. No. 40,837

April 23, 2004  
Date